

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS Washington, D.C. 20231

_	SE	RIAL NUMBER	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR		ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	
	07	7676,690	03/28/91	CANICH	J	P-1733	
				Γ	EXAMINER		
	P. O. BOX 5200 ARTUNIT					. PAPER NUMBER	
	BAYTOWN, TX 77522			1505		\$ 10	
			04/27/92				
This is a communication from the examiner in charge of your application. COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS							
COMMISSIONER OF FATER IS AND TRADEMANNO							
2-12-92							
This application has been examined Responsive to communication filed on 3-16-92 This action is made final.							
A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire month(s), o days from the date of this letter. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. 35 U.S.C. 133							
Part I THE FOLLOWING ATTACHMENT(S) ARE PART OF THIS ACTION:							
1.		 Notice of References Cited by Examiner, PTO-892. Notice of Art Cited by Applicant, PTO-1449. Information on How to Effect Drawing Changes, PTO-1474. Notice of Informal Patent Application, Form PTO-152. Information on How to Effect Drawing Changes, PTO-1474. 					
3. 5.	_						
Part I	Pert II. SUMMARY OF ACTION						
1.	凶	Claims		18-33		are pending in the application.	
	Of the above, claims are withdrawn from considers						
		Claima				have been concelled	
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3.							
4.	Ø	Claims		8-33		are rejected.	
5.		Ciaims				are objected to.	
6.		Claims are subject to restriction or election requirement.					
7.		This application has been filed with informal drawings under 37 C.F.R. 1.85 which are acceptable for examination purposes.					
8.		Formal drawings are required in response to this Office action.					
9.		The corrected or substitute drawings have been received on Under 37 C.F.R. 1.84 these drawings					
		are acceptable. not acceptable (see explanation or Notice re Patent Drawing, PTO-948).					
10.		The proposed additional or substitute sheet(s) of drawings, filed on has (have) been approved by the examiner. disapproved by the examiner (see explanation).					
11.		The proposed drawing correction, filed on, has been approved. disapproved (see explanation).					
12.		Acknowledgment is made of the claim for priority under U.S.C. 119. The certified copy has 🔲 been received 🔲 not been received					
		☐ been filed in p	arent application, se	rial no; filed on			
13.		Since this application appears to be in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.					
14.		Other					

Serial No. 676,690

Art Unit 1505

15.

Claims 18-33 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-13 of U.S. Patent No. 5,026,798.

Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because the inventive subject matters are overlapping.

16.

The obviousness-type double patenting rejection is a judicially established doctrine based upon public policy and is primarily intended to prevent prolongation of the patent term by prohibiting claims in a second patent not patentably distinct from claims in a first patent. *In re Vogel*, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970). A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.321(b) would overcome an actual or provisional rejection on this ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.78(d).

WU

D. Wu:amw April 23, 1992 703-308-2351 JOBEPH L. SCHOFER
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

ART UNIT 155